

**AMBULANCE STUDY COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of Meeting of October 6, 2004**

**Members Present:**

Gil Archambault, Kevin Federico, Denise Long, Peggy Seward, Dick Tortorelli, Frank Zielinski, Larry Pickett (non-voting member, Selectmen Representative)

**Members Absent:**

Peter Leishman, Mervin Newton

**Others Attending:**

Eric Schelberg (Ambulance Director), and many Milford Ambulance Service attendants, Daymond Steer (Milford Cabinet staff)

**Business / Discussion:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Secretary, Peggy Seward due to the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Minutes of September 15, 2004 meeting were read and approved unanimously by those members present.

Copies of the draft minutes of the September 27, 2004 Board of Selectmen's meeting that pertained to the Ambulance Study committee were distributed. Our letter of September 15, 2004 outlining the Status of the Committee Report was discussed. The Board of Selectmen charged the Ambulance Study Committee to continue working on the following five (5) topics.

- (1). Contract --- Larry confirmed that the committee is to formulate a Request for Proposal to obtain formal bids for Private Service Ambulance Coverage. We are to work with Katie Chambers, Administrative Assistant for the Town of Milford. This is set up to begin next week.
- (2). Input from EMS Coordinators --- SNHRMC, SJH, Elliot, and CMC hospitals will be contacted for their comments or concerns as they each evaluate service and attendant expertise pre-hospital for patients that are treated in their emergency rooms. We will try to schedule them to come to a committee meeting.
- (3). Budget Review.--- In answer to the question raised in the September 15, 2004 letter to the Board of Selectmen, it was felt that as a byproduct of the intensive work the committee is doing, if suggestions for cost effectiveness arises, we should make suggestions to the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee.
- (4). Newsletter Input --- In a town newsletter before Town Meeting, the committee is to formulate data to be presented for voter/citizen awareness of any upcoming warrant article or vote and provide information to assist them in their decision. The Board of Selectmen did not feel that a survey to citizens would gain any valuable information.
- (5). Committee Recommendation ---The committee should continue to gather information and attempt to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen on the three Alternatives/Options presented. There may be a majority and minority recommendation. This will be presented at a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen and the Ambulance Study Committee

Discussion was held to anticipate upcoming meetings and decide agenda topics and speakers. This will be presented under separate page. Committee members realize that we must meet extra weeks to complete our task.

Question arose that whether a Warrant Article must be used for the vote on any contract over three years. Also a question whether we would need a vote to negate Milford Ambulance Service since it was established by Warrant Article in 1974. Answers will be sought.

Gil Archambault presented a motion to scrape Alternative/Option 2 – Ambulance/Fire Department Merger as long as both departments would share a common facility. Vote was taken with YES (2) and

**NO (4).** Further discussion was held on Option 2 with request to have both Chief Rich Pauley, (Milford Fire Department) and Eric Schelberg (Milford Ambulance Service) again come before the committee to again come before the committee and present estimated cost for a combined service over the next five years. Topics to consider included operating costs, building expenses, and possible layout. This will be done at a meeting in November.

Committee members were asked to review the City of Nashua/Rockingham Ambulance Contract, the Alternative/Option 1 pros and cons, the questionnaire letter to private services by the committee and the responses from the Private Ambulance Services for our next meeting. Copies of these will be given to Katie Chambers for use in developing the RFP with us.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:09 PM.**

**Respectively submitted, Peggy Seward, secretary**

**Minutes approved by unanimous vote of members at meeting October 20, 2004.**